



Press Release
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91 YEAR OLD GOGO FINALLY GETS HER HOUSE

After six years waiting for a government low cost house, 91-year old Gogo Ntombizodwa Nkabinde from Morgenzon, Lekwa Local Municipality in Mpumalanga has finally received her RDP house. This follows a duplication of stand numbers which led to Nkabinde's house to be built at Sakhile Township in Standerton. Human Settlements MEC, Violet Siwela handed over a fully furnished house to Nkabinde this morning – much to the delight of neighbours and communities.

In handing over the house, MEC Siwela urged contractors to assist government in addressing poverty, unemployment and inequality as the three challenges facing the country. ***“The Department is doing all it can to ensure that communities are settled in an integrated sustainable manner by prioritising the elderly, people with disabilities and child-headed households in housing provision”***, charged MEC Siwela. She further thanked the private sector and contractors who played a role in making sure that Gogo Nkabinde's house is fully furnished.

The department investigated the issue with an attempt to restore Nkabinde's dignity and housing rights as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic. Gogo Nkabinde was then prioritized to be allocated a house during the delivery of an informal upgrading settlements programme in 2014/15 financial year. Frail Nkabinde reacted with joy as she was ushered into her house. ***“I was beginning to worry since we are approaching winter that how I am going to survive with my three grandchildren's,”*** whispered pensioner Nkabinde.

Gogo Nkabinde's case was in the media where the department responded by committing to build her a house. The delivery is as a result of hard efforts by the municipality and the department. Gogo Nkabinde was approved to get a house in 2009, but due to the challenge, she had to wait longer as her house was built in Sakhile. Nkabinde is amongst many beneficiaries prioritised by the department in housing allocation, including people with disability, the elderly, orphans and other vulnerable members of society.

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